

# St. William of York R.C. Church



Registered Charity No 233699

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Mass - Sunday  
Sat 5.30pm (1st Mass of Sunday)  
Sunday 8am & 10am  
Weekdays  
Mass Monday Tuesday & Saturday 9.30 am  
Thursday As announced  
Mass on Friday 7pm  
Confessions: Saturday 10am – 10.30am & on call

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

13/14 February 2021

Saturday 13th February

5.30pm Thanksgiving for faith  
and life (Maria)

Sunday 14th February

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am For all victims of COVID-19

10am Eric Chandler RIP  
(Birthday)

Monday 15th February

9.30am Luigi Gandolfi RIP  
(Amandini)

Tuesday 16th February

10am Funeral – Jim O'Reilly RIP

Wednesday 17th February  
Ash Wednesday

9.30am People of the parish

8pm COVID victims

Thursday 18th February

NO LITURGY

Friday 19th February

2pm Funeral - Luigi Gandolfi  
#

7pm Stations of the Cross with  
Holy Communion

Saturday 20th February

5.30pm Chris Taylor RIP  
(Tony & Elvira)

Sunday 21st February  
1st Sunday of Lent

8am People of the parish

10am Private intention

## Jesus stretched out his hand and touched the leper

The gospel this weekend is very challenging. Can you imagine the amount of 'social distancing' surrounding leprosy? Those afflicted had to live apart - away from the community. They had to ring a bell - warning others when they were approaching; they ate separately and certainly were not allowed in the temple or synagogue. The example of Our Lord in today's gospel certainly prompts many questions, both at the time and since.

## Ash Wednesday – LENT - THE Way of the Cross

This Wednesday, we begin the holy 40 days of Lent - a season leading to the main celebration of the Church's year - namely the sacred three days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day. COVID means that this year, there will be no marking with ashes on the forehead. Instead the priest will sprinkle ashes on top of the head of each person. Masses on Wednesday will be at 9.30am and 8pm - with live-streaming for the 8pm. LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2539625604> Just a reminder that, allowing for age and health - Ash Wednesday is a day of FASTING and ABSTINENCE. The whole season of Lent is also a time for prayer and penance. Please remember that while fasting from food/drinks is often at the heart of Lent- there are many other types of 'going without'. On the Fridays of Lent there will be **Stations of the Cross at 7pm with Holy Communion**. The Way of the Cross is a traditional devotion; it is prayerful and powerful. Please note that in Lent 2021 there will be no Mass on Friday evenings.

## 'Let us Dream - the path to a better future'

I spoke about this book last week. It is Pope Francis in conversation with the UK Catholic writer Austin Ivereigh. Written since the beginning of the pandemic, this book is not too long. It very much reflects the life and thinking of our present Pope who has emerged in the world of fake news and false leadership as a respected global figure. I would like to use it for reflection during Lent. 8 people have already asked for a copy - would you like one? It will only cost £10 - the parish will cover the extra and postage. Please email or leave a message on the phone. (Father Michael)

## First Holy Communion 2021 - REGISTRATION

Given the circumstances - preparation for our First Holy Communion children will this year be largely 'remote'. Application forms are in the church porch or may be collected from outside the parish house. Please return/email to the parish by March 1. Further details available soon.

### **A pastoral letter from Cardinal Vincent**

The Cardinal's letter focuses on Ash Wednesday and suggests a way of observing the day 'at home'. It provides details and prayers. Copies are available after all Masses this weekend.

### **WE ARE OPEN!**

Thankfully our parish church opening seems to have settled into a regular pattern. Sunday Mass times are consistent with pre-COVID. The Lord has blessed the parish with a small group of 'totally dependent' stewards who open up, assist with arrivals and seating and sanitise after church use. Other volunteers also assist. Thank you to all involved and to all who co-operate.

#### ***Our parish sympathy and prayers - forthcoming funerals***

##### **James O'Reilly RIP**

Jim and his wife Kathleen - long term parishioners - were very much part of the parish. Regular in their practice of the faith - Jim spent the last few years at home, looked after by Kathleen and the family as well as visiting carers. There was almost always an O'Reilly / Boyle bench full at Mass. Truly Jim was a good, decent and honest man. Now - may he know the bright light of heaven. The funeral of James O'Reilly will take place on Tuesday 16 February beginning with Mass in the church at 10am - with COVID restrictions.

##### **Luigi Gandolfi RIP**

Originally from Italy - Luigi and his wife came to England in 1966. He worked in catering (now often referred to as 'hospitality') running his own business. May he quickly find his place at the banquet of heaven. Funeral Mass with COVID restrictions - **Friday 19 February at 2pm**

### **Church Safety Arrangements**

- Face Masks must be worn at all times whilst in the Church,
- Please observe safe distancing and no intermingling between households,
- Follow the one-way traffic flow system that is in place,
- Please follow the direction of the Marshals on the seating arrangements, and stay in the assigned pew seat; a restricted number of 42 remains in place which will be adhered to.
- Holy Communion is distributed after the final Prayers and Blessing, with Parishioners expected to exit the Church, not returning to their seat,
- The Toilet facility remains out of use,
- Hand sanitizers are sited at the Entrance and Exit from the Church for personal use,
- If you are feeling unwell, suffering from a cold or cough, please do not attend Church.

### **Chris Fanning – senior Diocesan surveyor**

After many years of faithful and dedicated service - Chris is retiring. He will be truly missed - having been an ardent servant of the Gospel and the parishes of the diocese for so long. There is hardly a roof or drain (or any other corner) across the diocese which has not come under the view of Chris. The priests of the diocese greatly appreciated the assuring presence of Chris because he always turned up in a parish in order to 'help'. Certainly, Stanmore wishes health and happiness - to both Chris and his wife. May the Lord bless his many years of generous dedication.

### **Counters Rota**

<u>14 February</u>	Eddie Whittaker, Anthony Owolabi, Mary Kehoe
<u>21 February</u>	Richard Afonso, Walter Acuti, Beatrice McAdam
<u>28 February</u>	Judith Brightwell, Monica Assoku, Funmi Da Silva